



St. James' Church of England Primary Academy  
Pokesdown Hill, Christchurch Road  
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Email office@stjames.academy  
**25th April 2025**

## Newsletter

*"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble.  
But take heart! I have overcome the world." John 16 v 33*

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the summer term. This is a very short half term, less than 5 weeks, incorporating 2 bank holiday Mondays. We look forward to sport, music, educational visits, summer fayres and lots more... Please do read newsletters and the website to keep up to date with what, where and when.



### Worship

Mr Jewell led our worship this week, telling us about the race in the bible, where Simon, Peter and John raced to the tomb to find Jesus was gone... He was alive. He also appeared to several people including Thomas. Mr Jewell is a wonderful story teller and the children were enthralled as always.

Next week we will be led by the children in Nile class.



### St. James' Improvements

We have had redecoration work done in the school holidays to our school hall, the year 3 corridor, an art display installation outside the harbour and a refurbishment of our inclusion room. There are plans to build a sensory pod and also refurbish the Key Stage 1 toilets and redecorate the year 2 classrooms.

St. James' is a lovely place to be, full of children's work and things to see. We want every child to be happy here and feel a sense of pride that they are part of the St. James' family.



### Parent Survey

[St James' CE Primary Academy Parent View Survey - April 2025](#)

DCAT (our Trust) would love you to complete their parent survey. It is all relevant to St. James' and your children. If you could spare 2 minutes to complete it, we would be really appreciative.



### Quiz Night

I will be asking the questions for the next PSA quiz night which is on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm in the school hall. If you want to come and haven't got a team, we can find one for you. There will be food provided and the teacher team are in training, so come along for an evening of mental and quizzical exercise!



### Site Security

Unfortunately, we had a number of unwanted visitors on our school grounds over the Easter holidays, where some people decided it would be fun to break some of our football goals and put another one on our shed roof. There was also a significant amount of broken glass on the lower playground. It is a real shame that some people think it is acceptable to destroy children's property and sad for our community. It is difficult when the site is unoccupied, but we do try and lock the gates and secure everything, we also have CCTV. In future, we will make sure the football goals come into school during the holidays.



## The Difference Course

On Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May, we will have a visit from the Church of England Difference Team, alongside a film crew for the day. This is very exciting. As you will know, we have been involved in a pilot project for the course (one of a handful of schools participating worldwide). Some of our children and adults may be filmed and you will be provided with consent forms ahead of the visit. There are 3 habits which the course promotes:

**Be Curious:** Listening to other's stories and seeing the world through their eyes.

**Be Present:** Showing up and sticking around, learning to encounter others with authenticity.

**Reimagine:** Finding hope and opportunity in the places where we long to see change.

### Reminders:



## Attendance and Fines

Did you know that being registered late, also equates to absence? School starts at 8:30am, when learning begins in the classroom. The gates close at 8.40am. We also finish the school day at 3pm for Reception, Years, 1, 2, 3 and 4, and 3:10pm for years 5 and 6.

As a school, we are under increasing pressure to improve our attendance at St. James'. This year's attendance is 95% and Persistent Absentees at 12.9%. Whilst these are better figures than national average, we have a duty to improve children's attendance. The school is held to account by the local authority and directed to issue letters and fines. Whilst I will always prioritise positive relationships with families, sometimes we have little or no option than to issue a fine based on term time absences, such as holidays and lateness.



## School Meals Information

- All parents must pre-order by midnight the day before - you can now pre-order for the whole of the summer term
- All payments must be made through Arbor meal payments as usual



## School Uniform

Thank you to those children who are always dressed so smartly in St. James' colours. We continue to look our smartest and we are taking pride in our appearance and our belonging to St. James'. Please try to ensure your child is dressed appropriately, following our uniform policy. Our uniform details are all on the [website](#) and children should be wearing their winter uniform, with a school tie. The Summer uniform comes into effect in May. Thank you for your support.



## PE Days

All children must wear their school PE kit all day on their PE day. Your child's PE days will be:

**Mondays** - Harbour

**Tuesdays** - Early Years

**Wednesdays** - Year 1 and Year 4

**Thursdays** - Year 2 and Year 5

**Fridays** - Year 3 and Year 6



## Key Dates

The calendar section on the website should give you major events throughout the academic year, but I will give concise reminders below:

**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April** - Year 1 New Forest Wildlife Park Trip

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May** - Nile Class Worship - 9am

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May** - Ducklings Class Parent's Evening - 12pm - 7pm

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May** - PSA Quiz Night - 7pm

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May - 12<sup>th</sup> May** - Year 6 SATS week

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May** - Glee Club Salvation Army Concert

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May** - Class Photographs - No PE kit on this day please (EYFS and clubs)

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May** - Victoria Class Worship - 9am

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May** - Break up for May Half Term

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June** - INSET Day. No school on this day

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June** - Children Return for Term 6

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June** - New Parent's Information Evening (EYFS 25/26 cohort)

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June** - School Nurse Drop-in (Church Annexe - book slot with office)

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June** - Year 6 Residential - PGL

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2025** - Sports Day, King's Park Stadium

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June** - Malawi Class Worship

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June** - EYFS to Year 5 Discos - 1:30pm - 5pm

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> July** - Year 6 Leaver's Day - Christchurch Priory

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July** - EYFS Educational Visit to Longdown Dairy Farm

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July** - St. James' Summer Fayre - 11am - 2pm

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July** - St. James' Music Evening - 6pm - 7:30pm

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July** - Whole School Photograph - playground (school uniform - no PE kit on this day please)

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July** - DCAT Enriched - Hurstpierpoint College

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July** - Year 6 Academy Awards Evening

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July** - Break up for Summer Holidays at 1:15pm

Please check our website for your child's learning and important information on the year group pages. Also, the calendar section will give you important dates in advance. You can also see pictures and news on our social media accounts (Facebook and Instagram), follow us to find out more about the amazing things happening at St. James'.

As always, thank you all for your continued support.

**Alastair Brown**  
Headteacher

*Learning as a family in Jesus, through Love, Hope and Forgiveness. Matthew 19:26 "with God all things are possible."*

*'The school's values are firmly rooted in the Christian ethos of the school. Pupils know why learning through 'love, hope and forgiveness' matters. They make clear links with these values and the school rules to 'be ready, be respectful and be safe'. Leaders have high expectations for behaviour, and pupils live up to them. In lessons, pupils listen carefully and are keen to learn. As a result, they achieve well.'* **Ofsted report, January 2023.**

*'Every pupil and adult flourishes within the family at St. James'.* SIAMS report June 2022.



# ST. JAMES' PSA QUIZ NIGHT



**Friday 9th May 2025 7pm - 9:30pm**

**Come along and try your luck at beating the Teachers' table!**

**GUEST QUIZ MASTER - MR BROWN!**

**Maximum team size 6 - £5 per person**

**Teams of Mums or Dads? Grandparents? Friends?**

**Email [felicity.brantingham@gmail.com](mailto:felicity.brantingham@gmail.com) to book your table**

**The school office team currently have the trophy -  
who can win it from them?**

**What does £5 get you?**

**\* Table snacks/anti pasta provided by Relish**

**\* A fab night of lightly competitive entertainment**



# ST. JAMES' CE PRIMARY ACADEMY - EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS



SUMMER TERM 2025 W/C 28th April - W/C 7th July 3:15pm - 4:15pm

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>Breakfast</b> 7:40am - 8:25am		<b>Boot Camp</b> Mrs Finnigan/Mr Battams Playground This club is for years 4, 5 and 6 only, maximum of 30 children		<b>Breakfast Drawing and Colouring Club</b> Miss Daw/Miss Wingate Reception Classroom This club is for Reception, years 1 and 2 only, maximum of 15 children	<b>Breakfast Karate***</b> Danny (external club) Hall Details sent on separate letter This club is for years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 running from the 25th April
<b>Lunchtime</b>	<b>Lunchtime Library Club</b> (12:30pm - 12:55pm) Mrs Allery/Mrs Jacobs Library This club is for years 1 - 6, maximum of 30 children	<b>Team Cross Country Club</b> (12:00pm - 12:40pm) Mr Slattery/Mr Parsons/ Miss Perry Meet Pacific Classroom This club is for invited children only	<b>Dodgeball Club</b> (12:00pm - 12:30pm) Miss Martin Playground This club is for years 4, 5 and 6, maximum of 25 children		
			<b>Lunchtime Bible Club</b> (12:00pm - 12:30pm) Mrs Fakorede Mediterranean Class This club is for years 4, 5 and 6, maximum of 10 children		
<b>After School Clubs 3.15pm - 4.15pm</b>	<b>Team Netball</b> Mrs Stopler Playground This club is for invited children only	<b>Team Football</b> Mrs Finnigan/Mr Battams Mrs Pine King's Park This club is for invited children only	<b>Team Athletics</b> Mrs Stopler/Miss J Playground This club is for invited children only	<b>Rounders</b> Mrs Finnigan/Mr Battams/ Mr Dodd King's Park This club is for years 4, 5 and 6 only, maximum of 40 children	<b>Indoor Football</b> Mrs Pine Hall This club is for years 3 and 4 only, maximum 20 children
	<b>Gymnastics***</b> Leanne (external club) Hall This club is for years 1, 2 and 3 only, maximum 16 children	<b>Dance Club</b> Miss Lunn Hall This club is for years 3, 4, 5 & 6 maximum of 20 children	<b>Glee Club</b> Mrs Dodd/Mrs Uzzell Hall This club is for years 4, 5 and 6 only, maximum 50 children	<b>Volleyball</b> Miss Janaskova Hall This club is for years 4 and 5 only, maximum 16 children	<b>Tennis***</b> Mrs Heasman (external club) Playground Details sent on separate poster This club is for years 1, 2, 3 and 4 running from the 25th April
		<b>Football Club***</b> Aspire (external club) Playground This club is for years 1 and 2 only, maximum of 30 children	<b>Adventure Club</b> Mr Dodd Studio This club is for years 5 and 6 only, maximum 10 children	<b>Football Club***</b> Aspire (external club) Playground This club is for years 3 and 4 only, maximum 30 children	
		<b>Lego Club</b> Mrs Hopkins/Miss Kinzett Reception Classrooms This club is for Reception, years 1 and 2 only, maximum of 25 children		<b>Dance Club</b> Mrs Stoodley/Miss Pain Year 1 Classrooms This club is for years 1 and 2 only, maximum of 20 children	
		<b>Times Tables Rock Stars</b> Miss Finnigan Year 3 Classrooms This club is for years 3 and 4 only, maximum of 20 children			<b>***External Paid For Clubs</b>

# Parent drop-in

**Your next drop-in will be on:**  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June from  
8.45am in the church annexe.  
Book slot with the school  
office

Your school nursing team can provide non-judgemental  
and confidential support and advice about:

Healthy lifestyle advice

Emotional health and  
well-being support

Bedwetting and toileting

Nutrition and growth

Sleep advice

Signposting to various  
services

Parenting advice

Behaviour support



## You can contact us via

- School nursing admin hub on 01929 557 558
- Parentline advice 5-19 texting service on 07312263131
- Website at [www.dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk/school-nursing](http://www.dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk/school-nursing)

## Follow us on social media:



DorsetHealthCare School Nursing



[dorsethealthcare\\_schoolnursing](https://www.instagram.com/dorsethealthcare_schoolnursing)

We provide a confidential service. This means that you can discuss personal information in confidence. We will not discuss your personal information with anyone else without your permission. This includes parents and teachers. We would only pass on your information in order to protect you or someone else from serious harm. Whenever possible we would discuss this with you first.



# St. James' Church of England Primary Academy

## Term Dates 2024-2025

### AUTUMN TERM

Inset Day	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2024
Inset Day	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September
First Day	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September
Half Term	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> November
Last Day	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December (finish at 1.20pm)

### SPRING TERM

Inset Day	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025
First Day	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> January
Half Term	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February
Last Day	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April (finish at 1.20pm)
Inset Day	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April

### SUMMER TERM

First Day	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April
Bank Holiday	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May
Half Term	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> May – 30 <sup>th</sup> May
Inset Day	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June
Last Day	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July (finish at 1.20pm)



# St. James' Church of England Primary Academy

## Term Dates 2025-2026

### **AUTUMN TERM**

Inset Day	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2025
Inset Day	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> September
Inset Day	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> September
First Day	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> September
Half Term	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> October
Last Day	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December (finish at 1.20pm)

### **SPRING TERM**

Inset Day	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
First Day	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
Half Term	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February
Last Day	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March (finish at 1.20pm)

### **SUMMER TERM**

First Day	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
Bank Holiday	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May
Half Term	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May – 29 <sup>th</sup> May
Inset Day	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2026
Last Day	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July (finish at 1.20pm)